

Complete Summary

TITLE

Chronic stable coronary artery disease (CAD): percentage of patients who were prescribed lipid lowering therapy.

SOURCE(S)

American College of Cardiology, American Heart Association, Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement™. Clinical performance measures: chronic stable coronary artery disease. Tools developed by physicians for physicians. Chicago (IL): American Medical Association (AMA); 2005. 8 p. [18 references]

Measure Domain

PRIMARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Process

The validity of measures depends on how they are built. By examining the key building blocks of a measure, you can assess its validity for your purpose. For more information, visit the [Measure Validity](#) page.

SECONDARY MEASURE DOMAIN

Does not apply to this measure

Brief Abstract

DESCRIPTION

This measure is used to assess the percentage of patients with chronic stable coronary artery disease (CAD) who were prescribed lipid lowering therapy (based on current American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association [ACC/AHA] guidelines).

RATIONALE

According to National Heart, Lung, and Blood (NHLBI) guidelines, the low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C) treatment goal is less than 100 mg/dl. Persons with established coronary heart disease (CHD) who have a baseline LDL-C greater than or equal to 130 mg/dl should be started on a cholesterol-lowering drug simultaneously with therapeutic lifestyle changes and control of nonlipid risk factors.

PRIMARY CLINICAL COMPONENT

Coronary artery disease (CAD); lipid lowering therapy

DENOMINATOR DESCRIPTION

All patients with coronary artery disease (CAD)

NUMERATOR DESCRIPTION

Patients from the denominator who were prescribed lipid lowering therapy

Evidence Supporting the Measure

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING THE CRITERION OF QUALITY

- A clinical practice guideline or other peer-reviewed synthesis of the clinical evidence
- One or more research studies published in a National Library of Medicine (NLM) indexed, peer-reviewed journal

NATIONAL GUIDELINE CLEARINGHOUSE LINK

- [ACC/AHA 2002 guideline update for the management of patients with chronic stable angina: a report of the American College of Cardiology/American Heart Association Task Force on Practice Guidelines \(Committee to Update the 1999 Guidelines for the Management of Patients With Chronic Stable Angina\).](#)

Evidence Supporting Need for the Measure

NEED FOR THE MEASURE

Variation in quality for the performance measured

EVIDENCE SUPPORTING NEED FOR THE MEASURE

National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (NHLBI), National Cholesterol Education Program (NCEP). Third report of the NCEP on detection, evaluation, and treatment of high blood cholesterol in adults (Adult treatment panel III) [NIH publication No. 01-3305]. Bethesda (MD): National Institutes of Health (NIH); 2001.

State of Use of the Measure

STATE OF USE

Pilot testing

CURRENT USE

Internal quality improvement

Application of Measure in its Current Use

CARE SETTING

Ambulatory Care
Community Health Care
Managed Care Plans
Physician Group Practices/Clinics
Rural Health Care

PROFESSIONALS RESPONSIBLE FOR HEALTH CARE

Advanced Practice Nurses
Physician Assistants
Physicians

LOWEST LEVEL OF HEALTH CARE DELIVERY ADDRESSED

Individual Clinicians

TARGET POPULATION AGE

Patients of all ages with the diagnosis of chronic stable coronary artery disease (CAD)

TARGET POPULATION GENDER

Either male or female

STRATIFICATION BY VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Unspecified

Characteristics of the Primary Clinical Component

INCIDENCE/PREVALENCE

- Approximately 13 million Americans are living with coronary artery disease (CAD).
- More than 1 million Americans had a new or recurrent coronary attack in 2001.

EVIDENCE FOR INCIDENCE/PREVALENCE

American Heart Association. Heart disease and stroke statistics - 2003 update. Dallas (TX): American Heart Association; 2002. 46 p.

ASSOCIATION WITH VULNERABLE POPULATIONS

Unspecified

BURDEN OF ILLNESS

- Chronic stable coronary artery disease (CAD) is the leading cause of mortality in the United States, accounting for almost 1 in 5 deaths.
- For individuals with CAD, the risk of another heart attack, stroke, and other serious complications is substantial.

EVIDENCE FOR BURDEN OF ILLNESS

American Heart Association. Heart disease and stroke statistics - 2003 update. Dallas (TX): American Heart Association; 2002. 46 p.

UTILIZATION

Within the past 2 decades, the number of short-stay hospital discharges for individuals with coronary artery disease (CAD) increased by almost 18%.

EVIDENCE FOR UTILIZATION

American Heart Association. Heart disease and stroke statistics - 2003 update. Dallas (TX): American Heart Association; 2002. 46 p.

COSTS

The total annual cost of coronary artery disease (CAD) in the United States is approximately \$130 billion.

EVIDENCE FOR COSTS

American Heart Association. Heart disease and stroke statistics - 2003 update. Dallas (TX): American Heart Association; 2002. 46 p.

Institute of Medicine National Healthcare Quality Report Categories

IOM CARE NEED

Living with Illness

IOM DOMAIN

Effectiveness

Data Collection for the Measure

CASE FINDING

Users of care only

DESCRIPTION OF CASE FINDING

All patients with coronary artery disease (CAD)

DENOMINATOR SAMPLING FRAME

Patients associated with provider

DENOMINATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS

Inclusions

All patients with coronary artery disease (CAD)

Exclusions

Documentation that lipid lowering therapy was not indicated*; documentation of medical reason(s)** for not prescribing lipid lowering therapy; documentation of patient reason(s)*** for not prescribing lipid lowering therapy

*Not indicated for lipid lowering therapy refers to low-density lipoprotein cholesterol (LDL-C) less than 100.

**Medical reasons for not prescribing lipid lowering therapy: clinical judgment, documented LDL-C less than 130, etc.

***Patient reasons for not prescribing lipid lowering therapy: economic, social, and/or religious, etc.

RELATIONSHIP OF DENOMINATOR TO NUMERATOR

All cases in the denominator are equally eligible to appear in the numerator

DENOMINATOR (INDEX) EVENT

Clinical Condition

DENOMINATOR TIME WINDOW

Time window follows index event

NUMERATOR INCLUSIONS/EXCLUSIONS

Inclusions

Patients from the denominator who were prescribed lipid lowering therapy

Exclusions

None

MEASURE RESULTS UNDER CONTROL OF HEALTH CARE PROFESSIONALS, ORGANIZATIONS AND/OR POLICYMAKERS

The measure results are somewhat or substantially under the control of the health care professionals, organizations and/or policymakers to whom the measure applies.

NUMERATOR TIME WINDOW

Fixed time period

DATA SOURCE

Medical record

LEVEL OF DETERMINATION OF QUALITY

Individual Case

PRE-EXISTING INSTRUMENT USED

None

Computation of the Measure

SCORING

Rate

INTERPRETATION OF SCORE

Better quality is associated with a higher score

ALLOWANCE FOR PATIENT FACTORS

Unspecified

STANDARD OF COMPARISON

Internal time comparison

Evaluation of Measure Properties

EXTENT OF MEASURE TESTING

Unspecified

Identifying Information

ORIGINAL TITLE

Drug therapy for lowering LDL-cholesterol.

MEASURE COLLECTION

[The Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement Measurement Sets](#)

MEASURE SET NAME

[American College of Cardiology, American Heart Association, and Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement: Chronic Stable Coronary Artery Disease Physician Performance Measurement Set](#)

SUBMITTER

American Medical Association on behalf of the American College of Cardiology, the American Heart Association, and the Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement

DEVELOPER

American College of Cardiology - Medical Specialty Society
American Heart Association
Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement

ENDORSER

National Quality Forum

INCLUDED IN

Ambulatory Care Quality Alliance

ADAPTATION

Measure was not adapted from another source.

RELEASE DATE

2001 Aug

REVISION DATE

2005 Aug

MEASURE STATUS

This is the current release of the measure.

This measure updates a previous version: American College of Cardiology, American Heart Association, Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement.

Clinical performance measures. Chronic stable coronary artery disease. Chicago (IL): American Medical Association (AMA); 2003. 8 p.

SOURCE(S)

American College of Cardiology, American Heart Association, Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement™. Clinical performance measures: chronic stable coronary artery disease. Tools developed by physicians for physicians. Chicago (IL): American Medical Association (AMA); 2005. 8 p. [18 references]

MEASURE AVAILABILITY

The individual measure, "Drug Therapy for Lowering LDL-Cholesterol," is published in the "Clinical Performance Measures: Chronic Stable Coronary Artery Disease." This document and technical specifications are available in Portable Document Format (PDF) from the American Medical Association (AMA)-convened Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement Web site: www.physicianconsortium.org.

For further information, please contact AMA staff by e-mail at cqi@ama-assn.org.

COMPANION DOCUMENTS

The following are available:

- Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement. Introduction to physician performance measurement sets. Tools developed by physicians for physicians. Chicago (IL): American Medical Association (AMA); 2001 Oct. 21 p. This document is available from the American Medical Association (AMA) Clinical Quality Improvement Web site: www.ama-assn.org/go/quality.
- Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement. Principles for performance measurement in health care. A consensus statement. [online]. Chicago (IL): American Medical Association (AMA), Joint Commission on the Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA); [3 p]. This document is available from the AMA Clinical Quality Improvement Web site: www.ama-assn.org/go/quality.
- Physician Consortium for Performance Improvement. Desirable attributes of performance measures. A consensus statement. [online]. American Medical Association (AMA), Joint Commission on Accreditation of Healthcare Organizations (JCAHO), National Committee for Quality Assurance (NCQA); 1999 Apr 19 [cited 2002 Jun 19]. [5 p]. This document is available from the AMA Clinical Quality Improvement Web site: www.ama-assn.org/go/quality.

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NQMC STATUS

This NQMC summary was completed by ECRI on September 26, 2003. The information was verified by the measure developer on January 28, 2004. This NQMC summary was updated by ECRI on September 28, 2005.

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